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4 August 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Security Advisor, Honor and Merit Awards Board

SUBJECT : Honor Recommendation for JAMES W. McCORD, JR.

The attached recommendation for an Honor and Merit Award is forwarded for your information and recommendations concerning any security measures that should be taken in the processing of this award.

ELLIN L. BEATTY
Executive Secretary/HMAB

Attachment

Distribution:
Orig - Addressee
1 - HMAB Case File

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104-10066-10052

RECOMMENDATION FOR HONOR OR MERIT AWARD
(Submit in duplicate)

DATE:

TO: Secretariat, Honor and Merit Awards Board

FROM: (Operating official) Director of Security

Section A — Personal Data

1. NAME OF PERSON RECOMMENDED (Last, First, Middle): McCORD, James W., Jr.	2. POSITION TITLE: Elec. Engr-Audio Supt.	3. GRADE: 15	4. SD: SS
5. OFFICE OF ASSIGNMENT: OS/Technical Division	6. STATION: X HEADQUARTERS	FIELD (Specify location)	
7. HOME ADDRESS (No., St., City, Zone, State): 6801 Floyd Ave., Springfield, Va.	8. OFFICE EXT. (If hqs.): 4192	9. CITIZENSHIP AND HOW ACQUIRED: U. S. - Birth	
10. RECOMMENDED AWARD: Certificate of Distinction		11. POSTHUMOUS: YES ___ X NO	
12. NAME OF NEXT OF KIN: Sarah Ruth McCord	13. RELATIONSHIP: Wife	14. HOME ADDRESS (No., St., City, Zone, State): Same as 7	15. HOME PHONE: 451-5279

Section B — Recommendation for Award for Heroic Action or Acceptance of Hazard

16. WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO THE ACT: YES ___ NO ___

Personnel in immediate vicinity or who assisted in act or shared in same hazard:

17. FULL NAME	18. ORGN. TITLE	19. GRADE	20. OFFICE OF ASSIGNMENT

List any of the above persons given an award or recommended for award for participating in act:

21. FULL NAME	22. TYPE OF AWARD

Conditions under which act was performed:

23. LOCATION	24. INCLUSIVE DATES	25. TIME OF DAY

26. PREVAILING GEOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS AND OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED

Section C — Recommendation for Award for Achievement, Service, or Performance

27. DO YOU HAVE PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE SERVICE OR PERFORMANCE: X YES ___ NO

28. OFFICIAL ASSIGNMENT AT TIME OF SERVICE OR PERFORMANCE: Chief, Technical Division, OS

29. COMPONENT OR STATION (Designation and location): Headquarters

30. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Supervises the activities of the Technical Division, OS

Personnel who assisted or contributed substantially to the service or performance

31. FULL NAME	32. ORGN. TITLE	33. GRADE	34. OFFICE OF ASSIGNMENT
MARCY, William M.	Elec. Engr.	10	OS/Technical Division
PETIT, Alan F.	Elec. Engr.	13	OS/Technical Division

List any of the above persons given an award or recommended for award for participating in the performance

35. FULL NAME	36. TYPE OF AWARD
MARCY, William M. PETIT, Alan F.	Certificate of Distinction

37. INCLUSIVE DATES FOR WHICH RECOMMENDED	38. ASSIGNMENT COMPLETED	39. NOW IN SAME OR RELATED ASSIGNMENT
	YES ___ NO ___	YES ___ NO ___

FORM 11-63 600 USE PREVIOUS EDITION.

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(4)

Section D	Narrative Description

Award for Heroic Action or Acceptance of Hazard: Was act voluntary? Describe why act was outstanding, and if it was more than normally expected. Explain, why, and how. If an aerial or marine operation, describe type and position of craft, crew position of individual, and all unusual circumstances. Indicate results of the act.

Award for Achievement, Service, or Performance: State character of service during period for which recommended. *(Give complete description of administrative, technical, or professional duties and responsibilities if not covered in Section C; include dates of assignment and relief.)* What did the individual do that merits the award? Why was this outstanding when compared to others of like grade and experience in similar positions or circumstances? If appropriate, include production records and assistance rendered by other persons or units. What obstacles were encountered or overcome? Indicate results of achievement, service, or performance. Include reference to Fitness Reports, Letters of Commendation, or other documentation already on file which supports this recommendation.

40.

From early December 1965 through May 1966, Messrs. James W. McCord, Jr., Alan F. Petit, and William M. Marcy, of the Technical Division, Office of Security, spent many off-duty hours in experimentation with various items of equipment in an effort to improve and strengthen the Agency's Audio-C[illegible]ntermeasures Program. They conceived and developed a unique techn[illegible] in fluoroscopic scanning which is considered to be a major breakthrough in the detection of clandestine microphones and other devices targeted against the Agency. It gives the Agency for the first time the capability to detect hidden technical listening devices, a capability for which the intelligence community has expended large sums of money to develop in a variety of approaches. This technique will not only benefit the security of all Agency installations at home and abroad, but will be of utmost benefit to other agencies in the community. This technique was met with wide acclaim by the intelligence community and the Technical Security Countermeasures Committee.

In experimenting with the X-ray in combination with a fluoroscopic screen, these men showed this combination had distinct advantages in terms of time and effort over the considerably more expensive X-ray film and processor. In further refinement of this technique, they designed an innovation in the form of a fluoroscopic cloth which has the distinct advantage of flexibility over the fluorescent screens currently available on the commercial market.

[X] CONTINUED ON ATTACHED SHEET

41. ENCLOSURES *(List individually)* If orginator is not an eyewitness or does not have personal knowledge of the act or performance, attach affidavits of eyewitness or individuals having personal knowledge of the facts.

1. PROPOSED CITATION
2.
3.

42. RECOMMENDATION INITIATED BY	43. TITLE AND SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL MAKING RECOMMENDATION	44. DATE
[signature] Ermal P. Geiss	Deputy Director of Security (PTOS)	7/28/66

Section E	Recommendation Forwarded Through Officials Concerned For Their Information	
45. Head of SS Career Service (Career service of nominee)	TITLE AND SIGNATURE [signature] Acting Director of Security	DATE 7/29/66
46. Deputy Director of Operating Component	TITLE AND SIGNATURE	DATE
47. Deputy Director of Career Service	TITLE AND SIGNATURE SIGNED R. L. Bannerman Deputy Director for Support	DATE 3 AUG 1966

Section D Continued - James W. McCord, Jr.

To further enhance the use of this equipment, these men developed an inconspicuous, easily transportable package, consisting of two attache cases which hold the X-ray fluoroscopic equipment, wall racks, and motor units. This makes it possible for an audio-countermeasures team to enter offices, residences, and safehouses without undue attention. 24

These men have shown great ingenuity and resourcefulness in the application and development of this audio-countermeasure technique. Through their further efforts in package design they contributed significantly to the future clandestine use of this technique on a world-wide basis. This technique provides the Agency for the first time a procedure through which large interior wall surfaces, room furnishings, and objects can be rapidly scanned in "real time" in the search for hostile technical penetrations. This capability will significantly enhance the security of all Agency installations.